

THE MCGILL DAILY

VOLUME 84 • NUMBER 5

Confused by the domino since 1911

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1994

Women walk in the dark 750 march for an end to violence

BY MAIJA MARTIN

Saturday night, 750 women sporting hockey sticks, carrying placards, and banging on pots in a call to end violence against women attended the fourteenth annual "Take Back the Night" march. This year's theme was "invisible" women, which Anna Crego, a member of the march's organizing committee, defined as including "handicapped women, Native women, homeless women and immigrant women." Despite the committee's intentions though, the majority of the strong and angry women who took part in the march were young, white and able-bodied.

"I think there is a lack of women of colour here not because women of colour aren't aware of the March, but because they are not sure if their presence is recognized."

— McGill student at Take Back the Night

Each year at this time controversy rages over whether or not men should be allowed to participate in the march. In past years, organizers occasionally allowed men to march in the back. This year, the committee decided that it would be a night for women only to walk in solidarity, without the accompaniment of men.

However, as noted by McGill student Tanya Meinecke, considering the number of male journalists, camera workers, and police officers present, there was "a higher percentage of men than women of colour," at the march.

Mixed feelings

Participants expressed varying emotions concerning the march. Nikol Mikus, a Concordia student,

named the march "one of the greatest places to cruise [for] girls." Another woman said that "men have every other night of the year," and she loved having one night of the year for women only.

One woman, who preferred to remain nameless, questioned the effectiveness of the march. "Too many women are abused by their husbands. I've got five kids, and [the cycle of abuse] has got to stop somewhere. This march is great, but I don't know how much it's going to help."

One McGill student commented on the exclusionary atmosphere of the march, "This is my first time, and I'm glad I finally came because I feel

it's important for women of colour to attend. I think there is a lack of women of colour here not because women of colour aren't aware of the March, but because they aren't sure if their presence is recognized. The North American women's movement is still dominated by white women, and black women or women of colour don't see their contribution as being appreciated, and therefore don't attend."

Speak for yourself

After the march had wound itself up from Parc La Fontaine to L'Exit II on St. Denis, four women made brief speeches. They spoke on behalf of women forced into prostitution, immigrant women and homeless women.

In her speech, Vicki Zorbas, a worker with Greek immigrant women, lamented the fact that few "invisible" women had participated in the march. She advocated sympathizing with "women that are different from us."

Onlookers hanging off balconies, honking car horns and staring dumbfounded got information sheets about violence against women. They were generally supportive, except for the occasional tomato-thrower or nine-year-old hooligan. One woman, who happened upon the march accidentally, said she thought it "seemed more than [just] political."



Last Saturday's Take Back the Night March was a women-only event. In past years, organizers have allowed men to join the march which is held in cities across North America to protest violence against women.

Hey, what about us? Minority groups eye PQ government

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

The separatist Parti Québécois succeeded in winning 74 out of 125 seats in the province's National Assembly, ending a stranglehold of nine years by the Liberals.

But, with 44.7 percent of the popular vote, the PQ only just beat the Liberals, who took some consolation with a respectable 44.3 percent after some fierce last-minute campaigning.

The lower than expected popular support for the PQ has casted doubts over enthusiasm for separation. A referendum scheduled for next year will fail unless the PQ can convince Québeckers that they are both competent in government, and that independence from Canada will bring tangible material benefits.

OK, so it's pretty clear what issues dominated election-talk: the franco-anglo language and culture cleavage, the independence controversy. But, lost in all this pre-election hype were the interests of other minority groups. What, for exam-

ple, does the election of the PQ herald for other minority interests in Quebec?

For ethnic communities and other minority interests, the election of the Pequistes is somewhat of a mixed bag. Two main fears emerge. First, that in the short-term, minority interests and issues will get increasingly sidetracked as the 'Yes'-campaign drums up support for the impending referendum.

"We will probably not have more success under a PQ government than under the Liberals. It will be easy with the upcoming referendum for the PQ to forget about us" remarked Jean-Michel Legace, coordinator of La table de consultation des gais et lesbiennes de Montréal.

"We hope that with the PQ government that there will be some positive change, but to be honest, the change of personnel at the top won't change things quickly or drastically."

Secondly, if Québec nationalists were to achieve their goal of inde-

pendence, many fear that this may be at the long-term expense of minority rights. While the PQ is committed on paper to cultural pluralism, some believe this may not be borne out in practice. Aida LaBil-lois, executive director of the Native Friendship Centre of Montréal, an organization representing the urban aboriginal movement, expressed their concerns:

"At present, we have several agreements with the Canadian government, and there is no guarantee that these will be respected under a separate Quebec state. There is a very real possibility that the loss of federal funding will not be adequately replaced by funding from the new state. We were simply relieved that the victory for the PQ that the level of popular support may not be enough to win a referendum on separation."

Even if the apprehension that the PQ will not fully respect minority rights proves to be unfounded,

Continued on page 2

Non-academic staff to unionize

McGill's poor labour relations take a turn for the better

BY JOSHUA DRENNIS

McGill's first non-academic staff union could be officially recognized by early January, if the certification process continues smoothly. Members applied for certification with the province last May, and expect a relatively short review period.

Alan Youster, interim president of the McGill University Non-Academic Certified Association (MUNACA), said he was quite optimistic about the process.

"We're really looking forward to negotiating our first contract. McGill's administration has gone through some major changes lately, and we really feel encouraged by this".

Labour relations at McGill took a turn for the worse during the 1980s as the administration began to renege on previous agreements with non-academic staff. Youster claims that management ignored its labour policies as part of its efforts to reduce the university's enormous debt.

The original employee organization, the McGill University Non-Academic Staff Association (MUNASA), could no longer rep-

resent workers' interests adequately. Without a union, staff were left with virtually no protection.

"[McGill] challenged every arbitration decision in court because we didn't have a contract... our move was really a reactionary one," said Youster.

MUNASA's legal fees skyrocketed from \$60 000 to \$140 000 during the mid 1980s, as McGill appealed arbitration decisions which ruled against the administration.

Founded almost 25 years ago, MUNASA represented three classifications of non-academic staff at McGill. Library, technical and clerical staff were represented through councils, and the Association also included middle man-

Despite a summer meeting between incoming Principal Shapiro and MUNACA executives, negotiations on issues like pay equity remain at a standstill.

agement. Library staff first tried to unionize two years ago, but McGill challenged the move, claiming the bargaining unit was too small.

Efforts to join all classifications succeeded earlier this year and the application for certification is currently being reviewed by the

Ministry of Labour.

McGill's Associate Director of Staff Relations, Jacques Sztuke, says the administration is satisfied with the size of the bargaining unit this time, but still has reservations.

The definition of non-academic staff in the application is "rather ambiguous", according to Sztuke, and MUNACA could eventually "ask to include academic positions within the bargaining unit". McGill wants only "administrative and support staff" to be covered by the agreement.

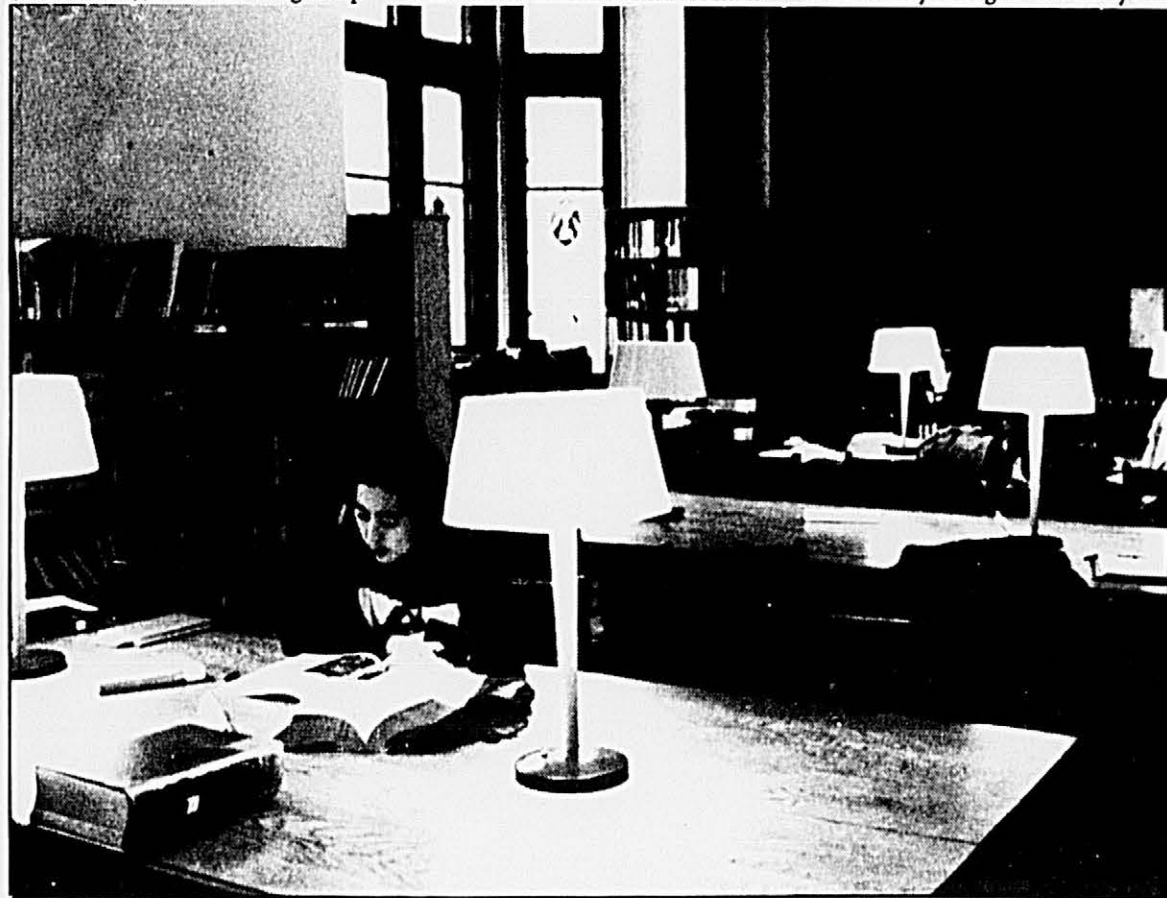
While optimistic that relations between the university and non-academic staff will improve, Sztuke expressed dissatisfaction with the process. Hearings sched-

uled for October 5 and 6 at the Labour Commission were changed to an information session, to be held on October 5 only. As part of the application process, the hearings will provide a forum for labour and management to discuss the application in general, as well as the definition of the bargaining unit.

Despite a summer meeting between incoming principal Shapiro and MUNACA executives, negotiations on such issues as pay equity remain at a standstill. Youster claims he made several attempts to contact university representatives concerning pay equity during the summer, but that no one returned his calls.

MUNASA president, Trevor Garland, described the certification drive as the "natural outcome of labour relations, as has been practised by the administration".

According to Garland, MUNASA will continue to represent its members during the review process. If the application is approved, MUNASA will represent those not covered by the agreement, including middle management and professional staff.



Bandaging bleeding libraries

Thanks to years of downsizing to resolve the library's expenses, with its ever-decreasing budgetary allowance, the Macdonald library must cancel \$29,000 worth of journal subscriptions or find additional funds.

To prevent this, students and staff have organized the Macdonald Library Walkathon, to be held on Saturday, October 1. They hope to save as many journal subscriptions from extinction as possible.

"The Macdonald library houses

valuable resources for all students on campus. All libraries have been facing budget cutbacks, and have had to cut hours and staff. [The library] cannot afford to keep some materials," said Grant Clark, one of the Walkathon's student organizers.

Sources say that library cuts have forced the closure of an entire library, saving \$26 thousand.

The Walkathon will begin at the

Macdonald campus at 8h, wind its way around the backstreets of Montreal, and end up downtown between 16h and 17h. Walkers can either endure the entire forty-kilometer distance or tackle the shorter fifteen-kilometer walk.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of the walkathon, or who just wants more information, is asked to go to the Macdonald Campus Library, or call 457-7249.

Assessing the PQ

Continued from cover

there are other reasons why certain ethnic groups fear a pro-sovereignist outcome of a referendum.

"It must be understood that many ethnic people fled civil strife and from conditions of uncertainty to what they hope is stability," notes Dolores Chew, ex-president of the South Asian Women's Association. "Many members of ethnic communities will be inclined, because of their historical their past, to lean towards the status quo."

Countering these apprehensions, though, is a feeling that the election of the PQ may presage an era of increased sensitivity to minority needs.

"The PQ is certainly open to the Jewish community, and I expect will continue to make efforts to understand and communicate with it", noted Mark Zarecki, President of Hillel Jewish organization.

Anti-poverty groups welcomed the change in government after Liberal-inspired welfare reforms slashed benefits and imposed tough new rules on welfare recipients. Claudette Champagne, president of the Front commun des personnes assistées sociales said that such measures had "made poor people poorer and more desperate than ever." Jean Lalonde, of the Welfare Rights Committee said that he was "counting on the PQ not to make any further cuts" to social welfare programs.

Johanne Belisle, Director of the

Montreal Women's Centre was similarly upbeat about the prospects for change under the new administration:

"The PQ addressed the question of pay, domestic violence and alimony before and during the election, and made proposals on paper but we don't know yet what's going to come out of them. They opened a few doors during the campaign, and we have to make sure the doors remain open," she remarked.

Minority communities are anxious to see whether the PQ will make good on pre-election promises. "At this stage, it's simply too early to tell," observed Zarecki. Yet the early signs for some are not promising. Only days after being elected, PQ leader Jacques Parizeau irked the gay community by stating that he was in no rush to recognize same-sex couples - seemingly reneging on a pre-election pledge.

This notwithstanding, the overriding feeling in most quarters is one of hope and reconciliation.

"The previous Liberal government [was], for the first time, beginning to recognize the legitimate grievances of the native peoples. We sincerely hope that these developments will be continued throughout the term of the PQ government" said LaBillois.

Whatever the case, the strategy to follow, at least for the pragmatists, is clear. "At all times, whichever party is appointed, we have to ensure we work closely with them to further our aims" commented Belisle.

Tuition fees may quadruple by 1996

Leaked paper shows feds plan to cut cash transfers

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN

If the federal government has its way, tuition fees for university students could be as high as \$8,000 by 1996, says SSMU research and information coordinator Alex Usher.

The potential hikes are part of federal Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy's much-anticipated Discussion Paper on social security, expected to be released within the next two weeks. In July, Usher received a document distributed to the provinces titled 'Social Security Reform: working document for discussion with provinces and territories.'

The paper, leaked to Usher by an unnamed government source, outlines Liberal plans for unemployment insurance, child care, welfare and education. In it, the federal government lists three potential options for the future of post-secondary education: terminating cash transfers in 1996-97; reducing cash transfers by \$600 million starting in 1996-97; or phasing out cash transfers "more gradually over a period of several years."

According to Usher, provincial governments receive over \$6 billion in federal transfer payments specifically earmarked for post-secondary education. A cut in cash transfers will most likely mean the federal government will retain the money saved and return it to the students in the form of individual "vouchers". Currently, universities receive money on a per capita student basis.

"Without that money [from cash transfers] the provincial government won't have any leverage over universities," said Usher. "Universities would raise tuition fees to balance it out."

To calculate the approximate fees, Usher said he looked at the 550,000 full-time and 250,000 part-time students currently enrolled in Canadian universities. In order to make up the difference lost in the transfer cuts, tuition

would have to be at least \$8,000. Tuition fees for a McGill Arts student are roughly \$1,500—the lowest in Canada.

The document also outlines a four-tier grant and loans program to accompany the cut in transfers. The system places "grants for the most needy" and "loans for living costs" as the top priorities. In addition, the document indicates that the severance of transfer payments "could involve an integrated approach to student and trainee assistance which would encourage personal and family investment in learning." Usher said this could mean a greater financial burden for students from lower income families.

University programs, like medicine and engineering, that rely heavily on transfers from provincial governments to meet their specific research needs, may be most affected by the loss of provincial power to dole out money, added Usher.

But a spokesperson for Axworthy's office downplayed the significance of the document. "The paper is really old," said Debora Brown. "There has been a lot of discussion since then. A lot of things have happened." She would not specify the exact changes the department has made to the document but added the official Discussion Paper will be "full of options." She further added that the federal government will be holding public hearings on the Discussion Paper once it is released.

Usher, however, pointed out that students can assume this is the direction the Liberals are going.

"You don't put that on a document and hand it to the provinces, unless you mean it," he said.



Louis-Mathieu Loiseleur of the Fédération des Étudiants Universitaires, the largest post-secondary student organization in the province, said his group is concerned about the federal government's proposals but added FEUQ could not take an official stance on it. "There is not enough in this [document] to react."

Undergrads could get new health plan

BY REBECCA MCGUIRE

The Student Society of McGill University (SSMU) is going to vote this Thursday as to whether it should revamp the current student health plan.

Roland Orfaly of the McGill Medical Faculty told the *Daily* that under the proposed health plan "all vaccinations which aren't covered under medicare" should be covered. The premiums for the student health plan at present are held at \$43.80 plus tax per student.

VP Finance Paul Johnson maintains that the insurance premiums will not increase as a result of the proposed changes to the student health plan.

"If premiums went up, students wouldn't want it," said Johnson. He further went on to say that if the students like the health plan as it stands, that the premiums may even decrease from the current rate.

However, when later asked to confirm that the premiums will not go up as a result of the proposed health plan, Johnson admitted that they were "not going to structure an

increase" into the premiums, but that the current rates are "not frozen."

Yet the plan to increase the benefits given by the health plan may not be received with overwhelming enthusiasm. Many students interviewed by the *Daily* didn't seem to know about the student health plan at all. Of the students who did know that they are paying for a health plan, many seemed ill-informed as to what they are paying for.

"I do not know the specifics at all. I have certain clues that dental isn't [included]... I don't know that much," admitted Valerie Losito, one of the students polled.

"Is that that drug thing [referring to the health plan]? I know something about prescription drugs but that's all," undergraduate Edwin Poon said.

Some students question the purpose of the student health plan all together. One such student, Susan Decaire, asserted that she thought that the health plan was "dumb." "I have insurance which is covered by my husband — most young people would have it through their parents," she noted.

Sheri Blackmore, a student of the Faculty

of Nursing echoed these concerns. "I don't know everything specific that is covered, but I do know that I'm opting out. It covers drugs, dental emergencies — I'm covered by my parents."

At the Student Society front desk there are two pamphlets providing information about the proposed changes to the health plan. One pamphlet entitled "Student Health Plan" only listed what is currently being covered. However a small "Urgent Notice" space stated: "In September the Students' Council will be deliberating on a proposal to add substantial benefits to this program. If approved, the details of any changes to the program will be advertised in the *McGill Tribune*." The second pamphlet, "Student Drug and Accident Plan: Benefits," merely listed of the health plan benefits for the 1993-1994 school year.

Not only are students generally ill-informed of their current health plan benefits, but for those who are interested there is very little information provided by the Student Society about the proposed plan to change the coverage.

events

- The Québec Public Interest Research Group will hold a vegetarian barbecue and general interest meeting at the Three Bares fountain. Barbecue from 11am to 3pm, Wednesday, Sept. 21. General interest meeting from 4-6pm. In case of rain, general interest meeting will take place in the Eaton Bldg, Rm 501 (across from Rutherford Physics).

- WUSC McGill, a development education group on campus, will hold a meeting Thursday, Sept. 22, 6pm, in Union 428. For students interested in development education, student refugee sponsorship, overseas opportunities for students. Call 284-0609.

- Dorm Raps. Informal talks on discrimination, coming soon to a residence near you. Sunday, Sept. 25 — *Racism and Religious Discrimination* to be discussed at Solin, Gardner and McConnell; *Sexism and Homophobia* at Molson and RVC. Sunday, Oct. 2 — *Racism and Religious Discrimination* at Molson and RVC, *Sexism and Homophobia* at Solin, Gardner and McConnell. Dorm raps at 4pm. Donuts and pop provided.

- Montréal Therapy Group. An opportunity for survivors of sexual abuse and violence to learn how to make spaces safe, how to be with others and take care of self, how to love and have healthy boundaries. Group leader Rosemary Sullivan can be reached Wed/ Thurs at 272-9582, Fri, Thurs, Tues evening 1-248-2524, Fax 514-248-4138. Group meets at Pidgeon Hill Bruideen, 1965 St. Armand Rd., St. Armand, Québec, 272-9582.

- PC McGill's first general meeting has been rescheduled to Friday, Sept. 23, 4:30pm, in Union B-09. Refreshments will be served. The Kwokmeister invites you.

- NDP McGill presents a meeting and screening of the film *Final Offer: Bob White and the Canadian Auto Workers' Fight for Independence*. This award-winning film covers the 1985 contract negotiations with GM, as well as the CAW's historic split from the UAW. Thursday, Sept. 22, 7pm, 550 Sherbrooke W., Rm 1180.

- The first meeting of the McGill Organic Food Co-op will be Thursday, Sept. 22 at 5:30pm in the QPIRG office, 5th floor of the Eaton Bldg. Call 398-7432.

- The Canadian Institute of International Affairs/ Institut Canadien des Affaires Internationales presents its first event of this season. Dr. John English, MP for Kitchener, Ontario, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Inter-governmental Affairs, as well as to the President of the Privy Council will speak on *Canadian Foreign Policy, an update on the Parliamentary Committee's deliberations*. Thursday, Sept 22, 5:15pm, Mount Stephen Club, 1440 Drummond. Call Pierre Coté at 395-2260.

- Congregation Shaar Hash-oymim's Meals on Wheels, located downtown, is urgently seeking delivery people and cooks for the fall and winter months. Commitment is two and a half hours, once a month in the morning. Rona, 937-9471, local 155.

- Professor Alexander George, Graham H. Stuart Professor Emeritus of International Relations at Stanford University will speak on *Preventative Diplomacy and War Avoidance in the Post Cold War Era*. Thursday, Oct. 6, 6pm, Stephen Leacock Bldg, Rm 26. Part of the Maxwell Cummings Lecture Series.

- Professor Francis Zimmerman, Directeur D'Études, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales à Paris, will speak on *The Myrolian Plum: Reflections upon the new commodities in alternative medicine and the question of universals*. Monday, Sept. 26, 12:30-2pm, Leacock 738.

- The International Socialists will hold a public meeting on racism and US and Canadian immigration policies. Wednesday, Sept 21, Rm H-771, Concordia's Hall Bldg, 1455 de Maisonneuve W., metro Guy Concordia.

- Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gays of McGill, upcoming events. Sept. 20 — watching Priscilla Queen of the Desert. Sept 23 — Sky night. Oct 14 — wine and cheese. Oct. 29 — "Faces", dance party.

COMMENT



Feeling "invisible" at Take Back the Night

In all of the media hype surrounding Take Back the Night, there's been a lot of bickering about the march excluding men. People see this as "exclusionary".

Interesting, I find, that people are so concerned with the absence of men, that they don't even notice how many women are not represented by the event. This year's theme for the march was "invisible women", meaning, I suppose, immigrant women and women with disabilities. It is exactly these women who, year after year, are missing from the cheering parade. And I can understand why.

I am, I presume, such an "invisible woman", because I am an immigrant and a woman of colour. It is a fine thing to have the issues of immigrant women, women of colour and disabled women first on the agenda of the march. But the term "invisible women" is almost laughable.

First of all, to whom are the issues of immigrant women, women of colour and disabled women invisible? All of the women who gave speeches at the march about these issues were white, able-bodied and grew up in Canada. They spoke of the need for "us" to understand "their" issues.

This kind of language makes immediate assumptions about who is and should be attending the march and, by extension, who composes the feminist movement. Why weren't any of these "invisible" women asked to come and speak on our own behalfs? There are plenty of us very active in the women's movement in the city. You mean to tell me that *no one* could be found?

It seems that these women are invisible to white women, who believe they dominate the women's movement. There were very few disabled women or able-bodied women of colour either organizing or taking part in the march, but no one takes the time to address why this is so.

The major problem with Take Back the Night is that it has become almost a pat on the back for the women's movement. It is a media spectacle, an outward show of solidarity where little solidarity actually exists. With time it has become more of a means of glossing over the internal divisions and persistent blindspots within the women's movement than a way to build real unity among all women.

If the organizers had truly been concerned about the plight of disabled women, why on earth was the march so bloody long? Everyone I marched with was exhausted, and each woman had different information about when and where the march was going to end. Had I been physically challenged there is no way on this green earth I could have finished the march, which, ostensibly, was highlighting me because I was "invisible".

Why did the march begin at Parc Lafontaine and end further north on St. Denis, leaving many women to return to a dark, deserted park alone, to pick up their bicycles? I made two trips with friends who found themselves stranded in this way, because the organizers didn't bother to co-ordinate some sort of group effort for women who might have come back to the park later. This has been a problem at Take Back the Night for years.

Why, if this is supposed to be a night for women, were so many male journalists allowed to walk along with the demonstration? Couldn't the organizers have insisted that the networks find a woman to cover the event?

Through its many flaws, this march raised a lot of issues which are not being addressed by the women's movement. We walked through the streets shouting "Women, united, can never be defeated". This is true. But, sadly, sisters, we are not united today.

I suppose I'll be back next year, marching along. But I'm tired of feeling like a visitor at an event which is supposed to be for me. For honesty's sake Take Back the Night, and the women's movement in general, cannot go on like this.

—Melanie Newton

Concordia grads join student federation

BY MELANIE NEWTON

Québec membership in the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), Canada's largest national student federation, went up from one member to two last week.

Last Thursday, in its biggest meeting ever, Concordia's Graduation Student Association voted almost unanimously to join the CFS. Of the 75 voting members present, all but one voted in favour of the motion.

VP External of the CGSA Jean-François Plamondon feels it was a timely decision.

"One of the principal reasons [for joining] was that we're entering a period when governments are reconsidering their policies towards education, especially the dégel [the end of Québec's 20-year tuition freeze in 1989]. Students were looking for a lobbying instrument, which is the CFS," said Plamondon.

The CFS currently represents roughly 450,000 students across Canada, but prior to last Thursday, McGill's Post Graduate Students Society, which joined last year, was the only Québec member.

According to Plamondon, one of the major factors which attracted the CGSA to the national student association was their social stand on Income Loan Repayment Contingency Plans and the seven percent GST on text books, which both groups are opposed to.

Whether or not student associations should be taking stands on "political issues" is a debate currently raging at all levels of the Canadian student movement. Recently several student associations have been warming up to the idea of student associations which keep social positions out of their mandates.

Michael Mancinelli, the national deputy chairperson of the CFS thinks this is an un-

fortunate trend.

"Some schools from Ontario and a couple from out west and east... don't like some of the policies and structure of CFS and they don't like the social agenda of CFS. But everything we do is mandated by our members at general meetings. It means they are in disagreement with the priorities that the majority of students have set for us," said Mancinelli.

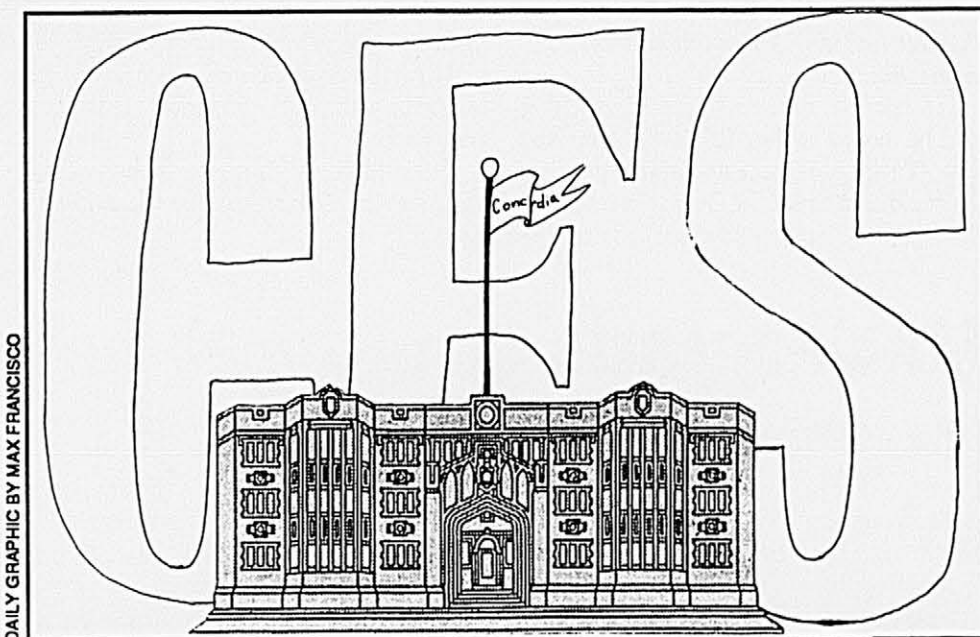
Several of the university associations who object to taking social stands are planning to form a rival national student association called the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations. McGill's Student Society, which has never been a member of the CFS, is involved with getting CASA off the ground.

Plamondon said that he does not agree that social issues and student issues can be separated.

"I feel that the main concern for a student organization is to protect the students. That can be interpreted as narrowly or as broadly as one wishes. CFS is trying to inform people about the upcoming reform of social programs [from the federal government]. That's important for students and will affect their living conditions... all of this is under the social policy. I think that on these issues, CFS has a role to play," said Plamondon.

PGSS VP External Marie-Claude Poliquin said that both the PGSS and the CGSA would be pushing to have representation on CFS' executive board. She thinks the Concordia decision will have a positive effect on the student movement in Québec.

Plamondon agreed, saying that, although some Québec student associations may have misgivings about joining a federal student union, he hoped for "a rapprochement between the CFS and the Québec student movement."



DAILY GRAPHIC BY MAX FRANCISCO



SINCE 1911
Vol. 84 No. 5

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Products or companies advertised in this newspaper are not necessarily endorsed by the Daily staff. Printed by Interhauf Developments Inc., Montréal, Québec. The Daily is a founding member of Canadian University Press, Presse étudiante du Québec, Publi-Peq and CampusPlus. Printed on 20% recycled paper. ISSN 1192-4608

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THE MCGILL DAILY

New megahospital

Efficient health care or political power?

BY KRIS SCHANTZ

This fall, the McGill University Hospital Centre, a \$1.03 billion project, will have its first functional Interim Board. The Board will be negotiating the amalgamation of the five McGill teaching hospitals into a 1,200-bed 'superhospital'. This medical complex would include the McGill Faculty of Medicine and a research center.

The Montréal Chest, Montréal Children's, Montréal General, Montréal Neurological, and Royal Victoria Hospitals first met with the McGill Faculty of Medicine to discuss the possibility of pursuing common futures in September 1992.

Since then, the project has often been the center of controversy. Critics have debated both the positive and negative aspects of the proposed complex.

Nevertheless, the transfer of power from the five McGill teach-

Political Science professor Dale Thomson, considers this the "large question, for although research funding is a federal responsibility, [hospital] funding comes from the Québec government."

At the beginning of the summer, the Parti Québécois (PQ) asked for a moratorium on the six million government dollars given to McGill for feasibility studies on the Hospital Centre.

PQ member of parliament and health critic Rémy Trudel explained that "the PQ asked for a moratorium because we haven't any clear idea of the total [health care] needs of the Montréal area."

Trudel went on to assert that "[the PQ] prefers to see the total situation. For us, there isn't any division between English or French [health care] systems in Montréal - there is only one system."

Many francophone hospital and medical institutions, however, have

the initial proposal to create a hospital centre, stated, "Politics have nothing to do with the [Interim] Board's creation. The only reason...is because that has always been our plan."

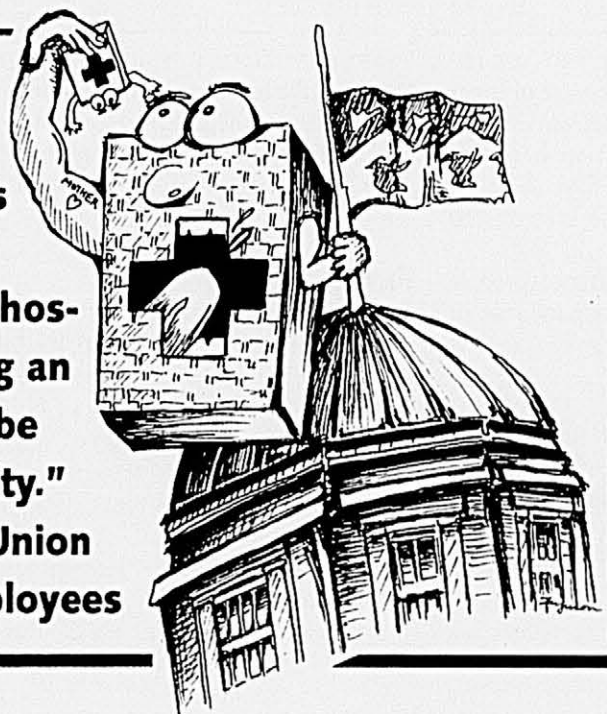
Commenting on the lack of government influence on the creation of the Interim Board, Paterson said, "No matter what the PQ does, [the Interim Board] will be in business by the end of October."

Although McGill University and its affiliated teaching hospitals negate the influence of the September 12th election on the Board's creation, the political motivation behind the proposed Centre seems evident.

"[The hospitals] were meeting with the PQ a year and a half ago, in full knowledge of the Liberals. Now that the PQ is in power, we will keep the Liberals informed of our progress," revealed McGill Dean of Medicine Richard Cruess.

"You have to have your head buried in the sand not to see that the principle competitors [for francophone hospitals downtown]...are anglophone hospitals that they are concocting an anglophone megahospital to be affiliated with McGill University."

— Gille Giguere, Canadian Union of Public Employees



ing hospitals and the Faculty of Medicine to the Interim Board of the future McGill University Hospital Centre is already underway, and is estimated to be fully completed by mid-October.

Thirteen of the proposed twenty-seven positions on the board have already been filled. Arnold Stienberg has been appointed by McGill University to the post of Chairman of the Interim Board of the future McGill University Hospital Centre.

Political ties

According to Richard Cruess, Dean of Medicine, the Interim board "will be essential in solving two sets of problems. First, designing the new hospital, and second, increasing the cohesiveness of the existing hospitals."

It has been suggested, however, that the timing of the Interim Board's appointments are related to the present political climate in Québec.

attacked the proposed McGill University Hospital Centre.

Favoritism for anglos?

In a recent study, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 2885, which represents about 600 workers, criticized the "flagrant and unacceptable imbalance... between the volume of beds in anglophone hospitals and francophone hospitals", Gille Giguere of the CUPE stated in the *Gazette* Saturday.

"You have to have your head buried in the sand not to see that the principle competitors [for francophone hospitals downtown]...are anglophone hospitals that they are concocting an anglophone megahospital to be affiliated with McGill University," Giguere asserted.

Alex Paterson, Chairman of the Board of McGill University and Chairman of the Steering committee, the committee which studied

The final report of the Steering Committee which examined the feasibility of the creation of a Hospital Centre for McGill recommended "that the participating hospitals proceed toward common governance and management arrangements, to assure their ability to respond effectively to a rapidly changing...political environment." Furthermore, the report stated that "We believe that speaking with one powerful, united voice will be more effective in a political sense."

Anglo favouritism may also be evident in the 'Memorandum of Understanding' signed by the involved hospitals. It lists "securing the institutional infrastructure of the English-speaking community of Québec" as one of the goals of the Centre.

The McGill University Hospital Centre is expected to be completed and open for business by the year 2002.

U Vic bans Red Cross

BY ALAN HARI-SINGH

TORONTO (CUP) — Canadian Red Cross Society blood drives have been banned from the University of Victoria, pending an investigation into charges they discriminate against gay men.

The charge was filed against the organization after it refused to allow two University of Victoria students to donate blood because of their sexual orientation.

The two complainants went to a blood donor clinic at the university and were disqualified after admitting to having male-to-male sexual contact.

As a part of its screening process, the Red Cross has potential donors complete a questionnaire on one's sexual activities. One question asks male applicants if they have had one or more homosexual encounters since 1976. If the answer is "yes," then that indicates the individual should be placed in the high-risk category.

Robb Stewart, one of the complainants, said the questionnaire is discriminatory because it only takes into account the person's sexual orientation and not her or his sexual practices.

"It's an issue of equality, as well as stereotypes, about which groups of people are higher HIV risks than others," Stewart said. "It's also a medical issue because they [the Red Cross] are mistargeting what high risk is, and not ensuring the safety of the blood supply."

The Red Cross says the questions are necessary to find high risk donors, or those who may have come in contact with HIV.

"What we are doing with this questionnaire is not just something that is done in British Columbia or Toronto," said David Pi, medical director of the Red Cross' Vancouver blood centre. "We are following an international set of guidelines. If that's the case, then it's discrimination by everybody."

Pi said that he understands Stewart's concerns, but wishes the student hadn't taken such an adversarial position.

"We're trying to make the system work because donors are declining," Pi said. "We're facing chronic blood shortages. We need to address these concerns."

"Our questionnaire is always under review, and we're looking for open ways to make changes, but not in open confrontation."

But university officials have come out in support of the students, charging that the Red Cross has violated their harassment policy.

As a result, there will be no blood donor clinics on campus until the matter has been investigated by the B.C. Council of Human Rights.

Ken Faris, a university spokesperson, says after holding its own investigation, the school felt that it was a human rights issue that should be decided by the council.

"It's clear that it's a case of discrimination," Faris said. "But as to whether that discrimination was fair or not, the university is not the appropriate place to decide that. The [Council of Human Rights] is, because they have the resources to deal with it."

That final decision could take up to a year to make, and Faris stressed that the university will abide by the council's decision.

Meanwhile, both Stewart and the other complainant, who wished to remain anonymous, are receiving support from the university's student society.

Stacey Tabert, the director of academics at the University of Victoria Student Society, said their board has endorsed a letter-writing campaign to ask the Canadian Red Cross to change the wording of its questionnaire, and to add new questions that do not target sexual orientation.

She also said they haven't heard any complaints from students, and that there have been letters of support.

But Faris said the feedback his office has received from faculty and the community has been just the opposite.

"Many people have told us that you should not have banned the Red Cross due to political correctness," he said. "People have told us that you made the wrong decision, and that you should have allowed the Red Cross to continue to come onto campus until the matter is resolved."

Faris also added that the Red Cross has not been banned from U of Vic, but voluntarily withdrew after the university asked them to.

This is not the first time the Red Cross has had to defend its donor questionnaire. Similar complaints have also been lodged at both McGill and Concordia universities.

The questionnaire was also deemed discriminatory by the University of Toronto's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexuals for targeting sexual orientation and not safe-sex practices.

The Pope pleads in vain

Papal opposition to ordination of women ignored

BY ALEXIS DIAMOND

MONTREAL (CUP)—As a woman and a lay minister in the Roman Catholic Church, Daryl Ross is angry with Pope John Paul's attitude toward women's ordination.

She says that though the Pope is progressive on social justice issues, his views on sexuality, birth control and the role of women "don't respect the values and concerns in this part of the world."

Other Catholic groups in Quebec agree. Instead of squelching debate on women's ordination, the Pope's letter of May 22, "On Reserving Priestly Ordination to Men Alone," ignited it.

In the letter, the Pope says, "The Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be definitively held by all the Church's faithful."

Women defend ordination rights

The most recent evidence of opposition are two petitions coordinated by the Coalition des Femmes et Ministres, the first one appearing in June, signed by 725 Catholics - including priests - the second one at the end of August, with 1,300 signatures, published in *Le Devoir*.

Ross, also a campus minister at Concordia University, says the issue of women's ordination cannot be a closed one with so many people in the Roman Catholic Church opposed to the Pope's stance.

She says she herself has struggled with remaining in the Church as her awareness of other issues, especially feminism, has grown. "I don't think I have an equal place in the church," Ross says.

Though she preaches at a local chapel, and feels comfortable in the community of the chapel, she does not feel equal in the Church as an institution.

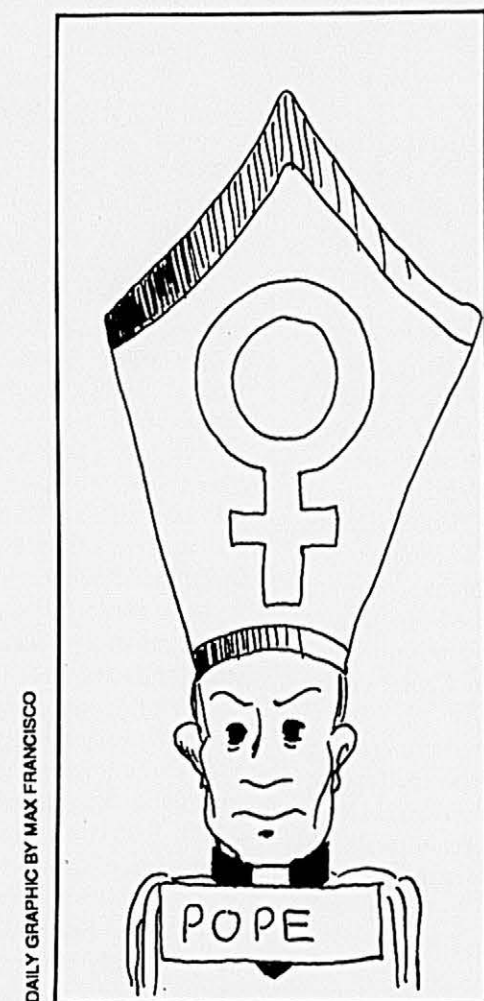
Norman Prince, head of the English chapter of Dignity Montréal, agrees that the Church is not egalitarian. Dignity Montréal is a member of the Coalition of Concerned Canadian Catholics, an umbrella group of Roman Catholics seeking reform in the Church's teaching about a broad range of issues, including the role of women in the Church.

Prince says the Pope's letter galvanized the issue even more than before. In the letter, the Pope writes that the reasons for forbidding women's ordination are "the example recorded in the Sacred Scriptures of Christ choosing his Apostles only from among men; the constant practice of the Church, which has imitated Christ in choosing only men; and her living teaching authority which has consistently held that the exclusion of women from the priesthood is in accordance with God's will."

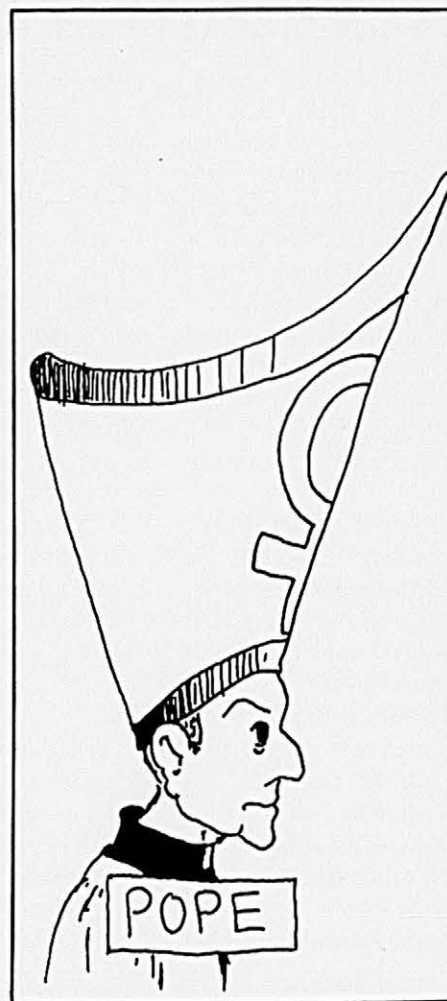
By asserting that it is God's will, the Pope takes Jesus out of any cultural context. "Christ's way of acting did not proceed from sociological or cultural motives peculiar to his time," the Pope writes.

Therefore, these men "did not receive only a function which could thereafter be exercised by any member of the Church; rather they were specifically and intimately associated in the mission of the Incarnate Word himself."

With this Divine Plan argument, the Pope tries to argue that women are not being discriminated against at all. He writes, "The



DAILY GRAPHIC BY MAX FRANCISCO



non-admission of women to priestly ordination cannot mean that women are of lesser dignity, nor can it be construed as discrimination against them. Rather, it is to be seen as the faithful observance of a plan to be ascribed to the wisdom of the Lord in the Universe."

However, many people—from laypeople to theologians—find multiple fallacies in these arguments, both in logic and in the New Testament itself.

A product of its time

Dr. Josephine McQueen, a theologian at Marianopolis College in Montréal, points out that the Pope is ignoring the historical context in which the New Testament was written.

"The Gospel was written 40 years after Jesus' death, and the new church needed to validate itself by showing how the new law could relate to the Old Testament," McQueen says.

McQueen proposes that there easily could have been more than 12 apostles, some of them women. The number 12 was used to refer to the 12 tribes of Israel, and given the context of the day, the number 12 could be more symbolic than literal.

Father John Wickham, a priest of the Jesuit order, working at the Ignatian Centre of Spirituality, further underlines historical context by adding that "God had to be incarnated as a man because it was so anti-feminist at the time. Women were not allowed in the inner court of the temple. [During services] they had to sit upstairs behind the curtain, with no window."

Wickham toys with the theory that Jesus was a feminist. "The scenes with women in the Gospel are the best scenes. Jesus responds best to women when they are bold. He likes how they break the rules," he says.

As an example, he cites the story of Mary and Martha. Martha reprimands Mary for kneeling at the feet of Jesus and talking with him.

Since the literal meaning of 'disciple' is 'sitting at the feet of a master,' Father Wickham concludes that Mary becomes a disciple in this scene. Therefore, the argument that Jesus had no woman disciples is questionable.

Faulty logic

Prince points out that literal interpretations of scripture are biased. He argues that as Christ chose only Jews, only fishermen, and only the poor to be his apostles, archbishops should be excluded from ordination, too—as they don't meet any of the criteria.

The syllogism often espoused by the Pope—that Christ was a man, Christ was a priest, therefore all priests must be men—also raises objections.

Rourke Simon, a member of Dignity Montréal, says the logic is "not very profound" since it is based on genitalia. "All people can image Christ... Jesus Christ wasn't there to image masculinity, but to image Love..."

New catechism

Besides the Pope's letter, the Catholic Church also produced the English version of the New Catechism, which contains the position of the Church on many issues.

Not only is the New Catechism filled with paradoxes, such as supporting the eradication of social and cultural discrimination while maintaining a staunch attitude against women's ordination, but it also makes use of exclusive language.

McQueen says the English translators tried to use inclusive language, but the Pope ordered inclusive pronouns and nouns removed.

"Someone had been deliberately inclusive but then was forced to change for fear of encouraging feminists," McQueen says. "They are so worried about 'feminism' that you can't even say 'men and women.'"

Theologian Joyce Kennedy from Mount St. Vincent University in Halifax explains that the reason for this malaise is the deep-

seated sense that somehow the priesthood and women don't mix. This view is difficult to change, seeing as how it is entrenched in Canon Law.

Old habits die hard

The Pope's assertion that Canon Law concerning women's ordination cannot be changed by him or his ministry is contradicted by the history of the Church.

McQueen and Prince cite the revocation of the condemnation of Galileo by the Church for asserting that the solar system was heliocentric. "History shows that the Catholic Church is capable of changing its teachings," Prince says.

Kennedy adds that for the Church to forbid discussion is counter to the very principles upon which the Church is based. "Christianity gives the tools to critique the very thing it has become," she says. What started as a small group, led by a radical challenging the status quo, has become a power structure, says Kennedy.

Another explanation of the Pope's position is that, according to Wickham, "The Pope is concerned with unity." In a global organization of 900 million, unity is difficult to achieve, with some countries ready for serious consideration of woman priests, and some countries completely inexperienced with feminism.

This is frustrating for those who feel that female ordination should happen now.

Wickham points out that the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) already proposed women's ordination, but was refused. In fact, the Canadian Bishops responded to the Pope's letter with strong support of women's ordination, although they are not prepared to challenge the Pope outright.

Patience is a virtue

Many people now involved with the Church have decided to wait it out. Prince says, "Rather than abandon a Church we feel is flawed... it leads us to seek reform."

Simon feels the Church is going through a process that is giving the faithful, "an opportunity to push past the limits of the images of God... to understand it more expansively."

McQueen sees the Church as a family. In a crisis, "you don't leave them in the lurch. They made you what you are. You have to maintain a certain loyalty. But you try to effect change," she says.

Meanwhile, those who wait for the institutional Church to change, seek and provide communities in which equality is implemented.

Wickham works at the Ignatian Centre with co-coordinator Odette Lalonde. The Centre is run democratically, with women in head positions.

Norman Prince and Rourke Simon, along with the rest of Dignity Montréal, celebrate Eucharist with both unordained males and females as officiators.

Ross feels that to a certain extent, she has a voice within her particular Catholic community. She contents herself with knowing that change in the Church is inevitable if the institution is to survive.

Wickham agrees: "Gradually the influence of the opposition will be felt [because] the deliberate changing [of] the relationship between men and women is the most significant thing in the twentieth century."

Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-07, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication.

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14 - NOTICES

Auditions: Savoy Society of McGill presents The Mikado. Open call for those who are interested. Tues., Sept. 20 & Wed. Sept. 21. Info: Nick Carpenter 982-2537.

Student Christian Movement of McGill is a student collective engaged in faith and progressive issues for social justice. For details contact 398-4104.

St. Martha's in the Basement: an ecumenical, eucharistic service of peace and dialogue, Sundays 10:30am beginning Sept. 11. Pot-luck lunch follows. 398-4104

McGill Multi-Faith Dialogue Wednesdays 12-1pm Presbyterian College, Rm. 4, 3495 University St. starting

from Sept. 7. Contact David at Chaplaincy 398-4104.

McGill Nightline is an information listening and referral service. Open 9pm-3am until mid Oct. and 6pm-3am the rest of the year. Try it out!! 398-6246.

15 - VOLUNTEERS

The organizing committee of the 19th annual MICKEY STEIN SKIATHON MONT HABITANT, an event that raises funds for cancer research at McGill and U of M, is looking for one or more student representatives to volunteers their time, creativity and energy. If interested, please contact Kayla Ellman ASAP at 842-1264.



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How to get pictures off the USENET

BY MAX FRANCISCO

Contrary to popular belief, the Net is capable of transferring other things besides text. One popular pastime among Net-users is to glean computer graphic files off USENET news. Users usually transfer these pictures to their home computers to look at.

To do this you will need some sort of computer, a modem and an Internet account. You will also need three software tools:

- PK Zip which will expand and compress files (this is done to save disk space)
- UUDecode to decode the graphic file from the format with which it is transferred on the Net
- Cshow which is Compuserve's graphic viewer.

The computer I am currently using is an IBM PC compatible so these instructions will be geared towards MS-DOS computer users. My apologies to Macintosh users. I also chose to concentrate on the MUSIC platform of the two operating systems available to McGill computer users since it is the most easily accessible.

To get copies of PK Zip, UUDecode and Cshow you choose item 9 in the main menu of MUSIC. Choosing this item will call up a list of Internet access tools. Tab down to FTP

and type in 'oak.oakland.edu' and press 'return.'

You will be whisked away to Oakland University's Internet node. Punch in 'anonymous' when you are asked for your User Id and a directory listing should appear before you.

To get the PK Zip program type 'cd pub/msdos/zip' then press F11 on your keyboard to switch from ASCII data transfer to BINARY or IMAGE data transfer. To download the program to your account enter 'get pkz204g.exe.' For Cshow type 'cd pub/msdos/gif' to get to that directory and 'get csh101a.zip' to get the compressed program. UUDecode can be attained by 'cd pub/msdos/decode' and 'get uuexe525.zip.'

Download these programs from your MUSIC account to your home computer. Enter 'xtpc [file-name] -b' to begin the download. Make sure that you include the '-b' switch or else your home computer will not understand what it has been given. Insert the name of the file you would like to download in '[file-name]'. This transfer will take some time so eat dinner, watch tv or go to the washroom.

After the download is completed remove these files by typing 'del [filename]'. You will need the space in your account for the picture files you will eventually grab from the

USENET.

Let's grab some files to view, shall we? Type in 'rn' to read news on the USENET. You will see a list of the various news-groups appear before you. Scurry down the news-groups until you have reached one called 'alt.binaries.pictures.misc' and enter it. You have now entered this news-group, and there should be a list of articles available for browsing.

Select an article which advertizes that it is a picture file screaming to be freed. These articles usually have headings which have a description stating that the article is a picture, or the heading could include the name of the graphics file.

Tab down to that article and press 'return'. You will see gobbledy-goop on your screen. Don't panic! This is normal. Type 'store picture.uu1' to save the article under the filename 'picture.uu1'.

If the picture has been broken up into multiple sections you need to enter each article which has a part of the file and store it. The file name must be changed with each part. The best way to do this is to change the last number at the end of the file name (ie. store the article as 'picture.uu2' for the second section)

Now transfer these newly saved files to your PC by typing 'xtpc [file name]'. The '-b'

switch is not necessary since these files are text files, although you could include the '-b' switch and things would turn out okay. It's your periodicity.

Once the download is complete you will need to log-off your computer. This will pop you back into good-old-reliable DOS.

Expand the PK Zip program by typing 'pkz204g.exe'. From here you can expand all the other programs by typing 'pkunzip [name of compressed file]'

Start your wordprocessor and link all the files you have stored from USENET in sequential order. Trim off anything that is labelled 'CUT HERE' or some other monicker.

Exit your word processor and type 'uudecode [file name]' to change the USENET file into a graphic file. Now it is ready to be viewed.

Call up Cshow by punching '2show', then choose the newly decoded graphic file. To view it you can either press the spacebar or double click on the item with your mouse.

After all that hardwork you should be able to see some kind of image on the screen. I hope you were successful.

To get an e-mail account, go to the second floor of the Bronfman building, fill out a yellow form and give it to one of the staff members. You will receive a code and a set of instructions on using e-mail.